

REPORT ON DETERGENTS IN RIVER WATER

INVESTIGATION SOUGHT

At a meeting of the Metropolitan Water Board yesterday a report by the water examination committee on the discharge of synthetic detergents to rivers was formally adopted. The report made special reference to the River Lea and stated that convincing support was forthcoming for the view that "increasing use of synthetic detergents is causing foaming in the upper waters of the River Lea."

Representations are to be made by the board to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, "regarding the serious nature of the problem and suggesting the desirability of researches being initiated."

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHAMPTON, JAN. 23

Southampton Harbour Board and the Hampshire River Board are to take joint action against pollution in the waters of the port. The river board recently expressed concern lest pollution in the fresh water portions of the Test and Itchen, which come within the jurisdiction of the port, should destroy salmon and poison food on which fish feed. It is also feared that the increase in temperature of the water near the new power station at Marchwood might affect fish by reducing the oxygen content of the water. The harbour board is determined to stop oil pollution in the waters under its control.

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